



Mental Health And Wellness #1

Discuss your district or school medical recommendations policy at a faculty meeting. If your school or district does not have a policy one must be written.



Description: It is important to follow your district or school medical recommendations policy when school personnel would like to talk to a parent about mental health concerns. If there is not a policy available at the district or school level one must be written. This criterion will ensure that your entire faculty and staff knows what they can and cannot do if they notice signs of a mental health concern in their student(s).

Resources

District Office or Website

Utah Administrative Code 53A-11

<http://le.utah.gov/%7Ecode/TITLE53A/htm/53A0C036.htm>

Assignments

School Coordinator Assignments

- Find your district or school medical recommendations policy
 - If there is not a policy create one for your school
- Discuss this policy in faculty meeting
 - Identify steps that should be taken when faculty or staff members notice a potential problem

Mentor Assignments

- Assist school coordinator with policy
- Send a the policy with the policy drafts
- Include the policy with your end-year report



Mental Health #1 Ideas

- If your school or district does not have a policy use the Utah Administrative Code 53A-11 <http://le.utah.gov/%7Ecode/TITLE53A/htm/53A0C036.htm>
- Invite your school psychologist or another mental health professional to your faculty meeting
- If the policy is a district policy invite a district employee to come discuss the policy
- Create a flow sheet that faculty and staff can follow when they have identified a student with a mental health concern
 - Discuss flow sheet with faculty and make it available to them
- Make sure counselors have copies of the flow sheets, fact sheets, and referral numbers in their offices
- Contact NAMI Utah, 877-230-6264, to get pamphlets detailing how teachers can talk to parents about mental health concerns



Medical Recommendations Description Template

A description must include specific details describing how the school completed the criteria. If you are writing a description for criteria that the school achieved in previous years please include a description of what the school is doing **this year** to maintain that level not what they did in previous years.

A Gold Medal Schools description does not require an Intent, Rationale, Reinforcement or the principal's signature. Use this template to write your description (all information is required).

A sample description for this criterion is provided on the next page.

The description must include...

- ☐ When the policy was discussed
- ☐ The medical recommendations policy

Medical Recommendations Description

The district's policy for regarding students' with mental health concerns was located by the principal and discussed in faculty meeting on Thursday November 3. The principal answered questions from staff regarding this policy. Suggestions were made for appropriate ways to communicate concerns with parents. The district policy is as follows.

Davis School District Policy and Procedures

Subject: 5S-602 Medical Recommendations by School Personnel to Parents

Index: Student Services

Revised: June 19, 2007

Page 1 of 3

1. PURPOSE & PHILOSOPHY

The Davis School District Board of Education recognizes that the decision for a student to see a health care professional or use medication is a parental concern. In working with students, school personnel may be in a position to make or give recommendations to parents/guardians which impact their children's education. The purpose of this policy is to clarify for school personnel and parents/guardians the recommendations or directions that school personnel may make or give to parents/guardians about seeing health care professionals or using specific medications for their children.

2. POLICY

2.1 School personnel may provide information and observations to parents/guardians about their children. Such information or reports may include observations and concerns in the following area:

2.1.1 progress;

2.1.2 health and wellness;

2.1.3 social interactions;

2.1.4 behavior; and

2.1.5 topics consistent with the Utah Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ([UCA §53A-13-302\(6\)](#)), and District policy [41-102 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](#).

2.2 School personnel may communicate information and observations between school personnel regarding a child.

2.3 In accordance with District guidelines and procedures, school personnel may refer students to other appropriate school district personnel and agents, including referrals and communication with a school counselor or mental health professionals working within the school system.

2.4 School personnel may consult or use appropriate health care professionals in the event of an emergency while the student is at school consistent with student emergency information provided at student enrollment.

2.5 School personnel may exercise their authority relating to the placement within the school or readmission of a child who may be or has been suspended or expelled for a violation of District Policy [5S-401 Safe and Orderly Schools](#).

2.6 School personnel may not:

5S-602 Medical Recommendations by School Personnel to Parents

Page 2 of 3

2.6.1 recommend to a parent or guardian that a child take or continue to take a psychotropic medication;

2.6.2 require that a student take or continue to take a psychotropic medication as a

condition for attending school;

2.6.3 recommend that a parent/guardian seek or use a type of psychiatric or psychological treatment for a child; or

2.6.4 conduct a psychiatric or behavioral health evaluation or mental health screening, test, evaluation, or assessment of a child except where this conflicts with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.).

2.7 In compliance with State law ([UCA §62A-4a-403](#)), school personnel are required to report suspected child abuse, however; unless failure to take action would present a serious, imminent risk to the child's safety or the safety of others; school personnel may not make a child abuse or neglect report to authorities solely or primarily on the basis that a parent or guardian refuses to consent to:

2.5.1 a psychiatric, psychological, or behavioral treatment for a child, including the administration of a psychotropic medication to a child; or

2.5.2 a psychiatric or behavioral health evaluation of a child.

2.8 A school counselor or other mental health professional acting in accordance with [Title 58, Chapter 60, Mental Health Professional Practice Act](#), or licensed through the State Board of Education, working within the school system may:

2.8.1 recommend, but not require, a psychiatric or behavioral health evaluation of a child;

2.8.2 recommend, but not require, psychiatric, psychological, or behavioral treatment for a child;

2.8.3 conduct a psychiatric or behavioral health evaluation or mental health screening, test, evaluation, or assessment of a child in accordance with the Utah Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (UCA § 53A-13-302), and District Policy 4I-102 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; or

2.8.4 provide to a parent/guardian, upon the specific request of the parent/guardian, a list of three or more health care professionals or providers, including licensed physicians, psychologists, or other health specialists.

2.9 Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted as discouraging general communication not prohibited by this policy between school personnel and a student's parent/guardian.

3. TRAINING

Appropriate school personnel shall receive training from their supervisor on the provisions of this policy.

4. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION

Intentional violation of this policy may subject school personnel to discipline consistent with state law and District policy.

5S-602 Medical Recommendations by School Personnel to Parents

Document History:

Adopted: March 16, 2004

Revised: June 19, 2007 - Updated to reflect new law enacted in the 2007 Legislative Session (§53-11-605). Utah Administrative Rule R277-611 repealed.

[Table of Content](#) | [Manual Search](#) | [Comments](#) Page 3 of 3

DEFINITIONS

“**Health care professional or provider**” means a physician, physician assistant, nurse, dentist, or

mental health therapist.

“**Medication**” means any medicine, whether over-the-counter or prescription.

“**School personnel**” means any school district employee, including licensed, part-time, contract and

non-licensed employees.

REFERENCES

20 U.S.C.A § 1412(a)(25) - IDEA - Prohibition on Mandatory Medication

[Utah Code Ann. § 53A-11-605](#) - Medical Recommendations for Children.